

Message Text

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USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JUNE 7 PRESS ROUNDUP

1. WALTER PINCUS IN JUNE 7 WASHINGTON POST SAID PRESIDENT CARTER HAS NOT YET APPROVED PRODUCTION OF FIRST US WARHEAD SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO KILL PEOPLE ON BATTLEFIELD THROUGH RELEASE OF NEUTRONS. PINCUS ATTRIBUTED HIS REPORT TO WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL AND NOTED THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD APPROVED NEW NUCLEAR WARHEAD. FUNDS TO START BUILDING SO-CALLED "ENHANCED RADIATION" WARHEAD FOR LANCE MISSILE ARE IN ERDA PORTION OF 10.2 BILLION DOLLAR PUBLIC WORKS APPROPRIATION BILL BEFORE CONGRESS. WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL TOLD PINCUS THAT EVEN IF LANCE NUCLEAR WARHEAD MONEY IS VOTED BY CONGRESS, CARTER WILL DELAY PRODUCTION "UNTIL HE HAS SPECIFICALLY APPROVED PROGRAM." CARTER ADMINISTRATION EARLIER REVIEWED AND APPROVED ERDA FISCAL 1978 NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM, BUT ACCORDING TO PENTAGON SOURCES QUOTED BY PINCUS DID NOT GO INTO SPECIFICS OF LANCE NEUTRON WARHEAD.

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CURRENT CARTER ADMINISTRATION POLICY REVIEWS ARE EXPECTED TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR PRESIDENT'S DECISION ON WHETHER TO GO AHEAD WITH LANCE WARHEAD.

2. BUSINESS WEEK, IN JUNE 6 ISSUE, SAID PROPOSALS US LAID ON TABLE IN MOSCOW LAST MARCH "WERE BASICALLY GOOD ONES. US SHOULD NOT RETREAT FROM THEM OR OFFER ANY MORE

MATERIAL CONCESSIONS. BUT IT SHOULD INDICATE THAT IT IS OPEN TO COUNTERPROPOSALS AND READY TO EXPLORE OTHER IDEAS." MAGAZINE SAID "US SHOULD STICK TO ITS FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES--BALANCE OF DESTRUCTIVE POWER AND MATCHING REDUCTIONS IN WEAPONS. BUT IT SHOULD KEEP ON TALKING WITH RUSSIANS."

3. WASHINGTON STAR REPORTED THAT POLL OF AMERICANS WITH KEEN INTEREST IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS INDICATES MOST BELIEVE US TOP FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITY SHOULD BE CONTROLLING SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. OPINION POLL, CONDUCTED BY NON-PARTISAN FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION, ANALYZED AND PROJECTED RESPONSES FROM 50,000 PARTICIPANTS IN ITS DISCUSSION GROUPS ACROSS COUNTRY. ASSOCIATION SAID "PARTICIPANTS ARE NOT NATIONAL CROSS-SECTION. ON AVERAGE THEY HAVE MORE EDUCATION THAN MOST AMERICANS AND TAKE MORE LIVELY INTEREST IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS." POLL INDICATED THAT 72 PERCENT OF RESPONDENTS BELIEVE US SHOULD "GIVE FIRST PRIORITY IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY AGENDA TO CONTROLLING SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS." POLL INDICATED 64 PERCENT BACKED APPROACH THAT WOULD "SEEK AGREEMENT WITH ALL OTHER NUCLEAR EXPORTING NATIONS TO BAN SALE OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND FUEL TO NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS NATIONS."

4. US NEWS AND WORLD REPORTS IN JUNE 13 ISSUE SAID SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN "IS IN HOT WATER WITH KREMLIN, ACCORDING TO WESTERN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES. REASON: DOBRYNIN UNDERESTIMATED PRESIDENT CARTER'S TOUGHNESS ON NEW SALT TREATY." IN SEPARATE ITEM, MAGAZINE SAID "HISTORIC UNCLASSIFIED

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SHIFT IN US BARGAINING STRENGTH WITH MOSCOW LIES BEHIND PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECISION TO PUT NEW, MORE POWERFUL WARHEAD ON MISSILES. US SUDDENLY HAS RAFT OF OPTIONS--NEW WEAPONS THAT COULD BE DEPLOYED IF RUSSIA BALKS ON NEW ARMS AGREEMENT. LIST IS IMPRESSIVE...THEY PUT POTENT PRESSURE ON RUSSIA TO SIGN PACT TO LIMIT THEM." VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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